

**RURAL DISTRICT of BUCKINGHAM**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

and of the

**CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

and

**SURVEYOR**

for the Year

**1959**

## List of Parishes in the Council's Area

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Addington	Marsh Gibbon
Adstock	Middle Claydon
Akeley	Padbury
Barton Hartshorne	Poundon
Beachampton	Preston Bissett
Biddlesden	Radclive-cum-Chackmore
Charndon	Shalstone
Chetwode	Steeple Claydon
Edgcott	Stowe
Foxcote	Thornborough
Hillesden	Thornton
Leckhampstead	Tingewick
Lillingstone Dayrell	Turweston
Lillingstone Lovell	Twyford
Luffield Abbey	Water Stratford
Maids Moreton	Westbury

# 1959

## BUCKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

*Chairman of Council :*  
T. S. MITCHINSON, ESQ.

### **General Purposes Committee :**

*Chairman :*  
S. W. CHAPMAN, ESQ.

#### *Members :*

G. J. Beckett, Esq.	A. Hodges, Esq.
W. G. Beckett, Esq.	P. J. Hodges, Esq.
C. Bryant, Esq.	A. Powell, Esq.
S. M. Cotton, Esq.	G. Purefoy, Esq.
Mrs. M. S. Crook.	Mrs. M. M. Spiers.
J. Davies, Esq.	D. A. Stewart, Esq.
Col. R. H. Doyne.	Rev. W. J. Waker.
W. Durrant, Esq.	A. J. Woods, Esq.
W. E. Good, Esq.	

T. S. Mitchinson, Esq. and S. W. Chapman, Esq.  
*ex-officio members*

### **Public Health Staff :**

#### *Medical Officer of Health :*

D. H. WALDRON,

O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., Col. I.A.M.C. (Rtd.)

(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for Buckingham M.B., the Urban Districts of Bletchley, Linslade, Newport Pagnell and Wolverton, the Rural Districts of Newport Pagnell and Wing, Area Medical Officer for North Bucks and Divisional School Medical Officer for the North Bucks Division and the Buckingham and Winslow District.)

#### *Deputy Medical Officer of Health :*

F. O'ROURKE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.I.H.

#### *Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector :*

J. C. SHARPE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

#### *Additional Public Health Inspector and Deputy :*

K. E. RICHARDSON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

#### *Administrative Assistant :*

C. H. BRAY.

#### *Student Public Health Inspector :*

T. J. AYRES.

# BUCKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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COUNCIL OFFICES,  
SCHOOL LANE,  
BUCKINGHAM,  
16th May, 1960.

*To the Chairman and Members of Buckingham Rural  
District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1959.

The Birth Rate shows a drop from last year but is still higher than the Rate for the Country as a whole.

The Death Rate shows a slight rise but even so remains nearly two points lower than that for the rest of the Country. Again Heart Diseases and Cancer caused the majority of deaths, accounting for 70 of the total of 105 deaths.

The Infantile Mortality Rate shows a most satisfactory drop from 25.0 in 1958 to 6.8 last year.

In the realm of Infectious Diseases there was an increase of notifications of Measles during the year. The increase was general over the Country as a whole.

I should like to record another year of happy co-operation with your Clerk, Mr. Floyd, your Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, Mr. Sharpe, and their staffs.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
DANIEL H. WALDRON.

## SECTION A.

### Vital Statistics

	1958	1959
Area (in acres) .. .. .	54,543	54,543
Population .. .. .	9,620	9,660
Number of Inhabited Houses ..	2,707	2,735
Rateable Value .. .. .	£76,430	£90,328
Rate per £ .. .. .	20/-	20/-
Estimated Sum represented by a 1d. Rate .. .. .	£312/14/1	£334/11/5
Births :		
Legitimate—Males ..	85	71
„ Females ..	66	69
Illegitimate—Males ..	7	4
„ Females ..	2	2
Birth rate per 1,000 population	18.4	16.8
Do. (Bucks)	17.3	17.6
Do. (England & Wales)	16.4	16.5
Deaths—Males .. .. .	46	63
„ Females .. .. .	52	42
Death rate per 1,000 population	9.2	9.7
Do. (Bucks)	9.8	9.7
Do. (England & Wales)	11.7	11.6
Maternal Mortality Rate ..	Nil	Nil
Do. (England & Wales)	0.43	0.38
Infantile Mortality :		
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :		
per 1,000 live births ..	25.0	6.8
Ditto for Bucks ..	16.4	18.4
Ditto for England & Wales	22.5	22.0
Still Births .. .. .	4	4

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH :	1958			1959		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Influenza ... ..	0	0	0	0	1	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Tuberculosis ... ..	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer ... ..	8	8	16	10	6	16
Diabetes ... ..	0	4	4	0	0	0
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	6	7	13	8	10	18
Heart Disease ... ..	17	17	34	24	8	32
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	1	6	7	3	1	4
Bronchitis ... ..	2	3	5	5	2	7
Pneumonia ... ..	4	0	4	2	2	4
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	0	1	1	0	1	1
Digestive Diseases ... ..	0	1	1	2	0	2
Nephritis ... ..	1	0	1	1	0	1
Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion ... ..	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congenital Causes ... ..	1	0	1	0	1	1
Accidents ... ..	3	1	4	2	1	3
All other Causes ... ..	3	4	7	6	9	15
TOTALS ... ..	<u>46</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>105</u>

## SECTION B.

### General Provision of Health Services

#### 1. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Specimens for bacteriological investigation were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford, as in previous years. Specimens for qualitative and quantitative analysis had to be sent to London.

#### 2. AMBULANCE SERVICES.

This service, administered by the County Health Department, is now radio controlled from Aylesbury, with a sub-station in Bletchley to cover the North Bucks Area. The service deals with all types of cases, general, accident and infectious disease.

#### 3. NURSING FACILITIES.

The District Nurses in the Buckingham Rural Area carried out their duties in their usual conscientious manner.

#### 4. CLINICS.

(a) *Child Welfare Centres.* There are five static Welfare Centres serving the District, located as follows :

Buckingham (twice monthly)	Twyford (once monthly)
Steeple Claydon (do.)	Winslow (twice monthly)
Thornborough (once monthly)	

The work of the Mobile Welfare Unit continued during the year and the following villages were visited monthly :—

Akeley.	Charndon.	Padbury.
Adstock.	Dadford.	Preston Bissett.
Beachampton.	Leckhampstead.	Thornton.
Calvert.	Lillingstone Dayrell.	Tingewick.
Chackmore.	Maids Moreton.	



The District Nurse and Health Visitor attended each Session, and a Medical Officer attended once monthly. Immunization against Diphtheria and Whooping cough was carried out at all centres. During the year attendances by children totalled 2,744.

Once again I should like to pay tribute to the good work done at these Clinics by the members of the Ladies' Voluntary Committees.

(b) *Chest Clinic*.—The Clinic holds weekly sessions and is administered jointly by the Regional Hospital Board and the County Health Department. A chest physician attends each session. It is equipped with X-ray plant and is doing excellent work.

(c) *Orthopaedic Clinic*.—This clinic is organized by the Wingfield-Morris Hospital, Oxford. It holds two sessions a month at the Town Hall, Buckingham, and an Orthopaedic Surgeon attends alternate months.

## 5. HOSPITALS.

The following Hospitals served the area during the year :—

Buckingham Hospital.  
Aylesbury Group.  
Oxford Group.  
Northampton Group.  
Creaton Sanatorium.  
Peppard Sanatorium.

## 6. DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

This service, which for some time had been administered on behalf of the County Council by the Women's Voluntary Service, is now administered direct with two whole time Domestic Help Organisers covering the North Bucks Area.

During the year, 60 cases were assisted in the Buckingham area.



## 7. INEDUCABLE CHILDREN.

The County Medical Officer of Health has sent the following report :—

“ The training Centre at Thornborough Church Hall continued to function satisfactorily during the year.

“ Milk and mid-day meals were provided and children were conveyed from the surrounding area.

“ The number on the roll remained at 12.”

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## SECTION C.

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

#### 1. WATER SUPPLY.

The Bucks Water Board, of which your Council is a constituent authority, continued to supply every parish with water.

The Foxcote Treatment Works have been in operation throughout the year in conjunction with the storage reservoir and the average daily quantity of water supplied from these works during 1959 was 1,518,000 gallons, an increase of 148,000 gallons per day over the figure for 1958.

Average daily quantity of water supplied from Foxcote Treatment Works during the past four years :—

1956	1,165,000	gallons.
1957	1,325,000	„
1958	1,370,000	„
1959	1,518,000	„

The summer of 1959 was one of the warmest and driest summers for many years : thanks to the heavy rainfall of 1958 and in particular of the winter 1958-59, no restrictions were imposed by the Board during 1959. During the summer, certain temporary difficulties at Foxcote, due to the excessive plant growth in the raw water, gave rise to unpleasant taste ; all bacteriological samples throughout the year showed the water to be entirely fit for human consumption.

No new mains were laid by the Board during the year.

## Main Supply.

- (a) Quantity—Satisfactory.
- (b) Quality—Satisfactory.
- (c) Samples taken from the supply (which fell into Class I of the Ministry of Health's grading) ... .. 4
- (d) Estimated number of premises on supply ... 2531
- (e) Estimated number of population served ... 9334

## Other Sources.

- (a) Samples taken ... .. 12
- (b) Samples found upon analysis to be unfit ... 7  
(in these cases informal action was taken with the owners of the property concerned to provide a wholesome supply).

During the year, eight new dwellings and nine existing dwellings (with no piped water supply) were connected to the Board's mains.

## Summary of Results of Water Samples taken from other than Main Supply for Bacteriological Examination during the past Ten Years.

Year	No. of Samples taken and examined	Result	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
1950	6	3	3
1951	12	2	10
1952	4	2	2
1953	7	3	4
1954	12	4	8
1955	12	1	11
1956	4	3	1
1957	6	2	4
1958	13	5	8
1959	12	5	7
Totals	88	30	58
		65.91% unsatisfactory.	

## 2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The streams and water courses in several villages are still polluted by drainage effluent and in dry weather a number of them consist almost entirely of sewage and, whilst every effort is made with the small available labour force to keep them cleaned out, the pollution increases yearly. The sewerage and sewage disposal schemes installed in recent years have helped greatly to reduce the overall picture of pollution but it will be many years before the district is completely rid of this nuisance.

The cleaning out of part of Beachampton Brook and the Lillingstone Lovell Stream was undertaken during the year and a number of occupiers of agricultural land in the village of Thornborough were also prevailed upon to clean impedimenta and undergrowth from the Thornborough Stream.

## 3. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

### *Adstock and Padbury.*

The Adstock and Padbury Scheme was completed early in the year and was formally opened by the Chairman of the Council, Mr. T. S. Mitchinson, on 12th May, 1959. By the end of the year the property owners had taken advantage of the new scheme by the installation of new drainage, bathrooms and water closets. The house drains for the majority of premises in both the village areas were connected to the new sewers by the Council's Contractors.

During the first few months the works were in operation, several complaints were received concerning obnoxious smells in certain parts of the village of Padbury. Investigations were carried out and certain remedial works executed. An additional ventilating shaft was provided to the sewer at the point where the pumping main discharges into the gravity flow sewer. The works functioned satisfactorily during the year and no further complaints were received by the Department.

### *Akeley.*

The tender submitted by Messrs. G. R. Yeomans Ltd., for the Akeley Scheme was approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and work commenced in May. By the end of the year approximately 50% of the value of the contract figure had been completed. It is anticipated that the contract will be completed in the Spring of 1960.

### *Marsh Gibbon.*

The negotiated price submitted by Messrs. Brigdwater Bros., for the execution of drainage works required to improve the final effluent at Marsh Gibbon was approved and the pumping equipment, pumping main, etc., were installed and put into operation during the year.

### *Tingewick.*

Following the closure of Tingewick Camp, negotiations took place between the Council and the War Department regarding the extensions to the sewage works made by the Department in 1956. The extension comprises two sedimentation tanks, filter bed, humus tank, eight stormwater overflow tanks and two sludge beds.

It was eventually agreed by the Council to purchase the extensions for the sum of £500.

### *Water Stratford.*

The small disposal plant at Water Stratford was completed and put into operation early in the year.

The following villages are now provided with modern sewage disposal works :—

Chackmore.	Completed in 1939.
Steeple Claydon.	Completed in 1939.
Tingewick.	Completed during the War by the War Department and taken over by the Council in 1949. Extended in 1956 by War Department and taken over by Council in 1959.



Thornborough.	Completed in 1953.
Marsh Gibbon.	Completed in 1956.
Adstock & Padbury.	Completed in 1959.
Hillesden Church End.	Completed 1959.
Water Stratford.	Completed 1959.

These works continued to function satisfactorily throughout the year and good effluent standards were maintained. The maintenance staff carried out their duties in a satisfactory manner.

During the year the Department prepared schemes and tenders were invited for the following :—

(a) Extension of the sewer to serve the new Council Housing Site in Buckingham Road, Steeple Claydon. The work comprised the laying of 150 lineal yards of 6 in. glazed stoneware and 15 lineal yards of 6" spun iron pipe, together with pre-cast concrete manholes. The tender submitted by Messrs. A. H. Busby (Buckingham) Limited, in the sum of £1,220 7s. 6d. was accepted and approved by the Minister and the work executed during the latter part of the year.

(b) Re-laying of effluent drain at Leckhampstead involving the laying of 210 lineal yards of 6" porous concrete pipes together with brick manholes. The tender submitted by Messrs. Pollard & Son (Builders) Ltd., in the sum of £310 10s. 0d. was accepted and the work executed during the year.

(c) Surface water drainage scheme to alleviate flooding at Nos. 1-8, Portway Road, Twyford, involving the laying of 158 lineal yards of 12" diameter porous concrete tube, brick manholes and 74 lineal yards of 6" agricultural pipes. The tender submitted by Messrs. A. H. Busby (Buckingham) Ltd., in the sum of £663 7s. 6d. was accepted and approved and the work executed during the year.

#### 4. WATER CLOSETS.

A conversion scheme for the installation of water closets at 15 Council Houses to replace bucket lavatories was executed in the early part of the year.

It was necessary to install small sewage disposal plants together with pumping equipment at :—

School Hill, Charndon (8 houses)  
Grendon Road, Edgcott (4 houses)

Three Council Houses at Preston Bissett were also converted.

With the completion of this conversion scheme, there are only six Council Houses which are not provided with water closets. These are situate at Church Hill, Akeley. It is anticipated that the main sewerage scheme for Akeley will be completed early in 1960 and the necessary conversion works will then be carried out.

Eighty-seven W.Cs. have been installed during the year by the owners of private properties.

## 5. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A satisfactory service for the collection of household refuse was maintained throughout the District during the year. The scheme instituted in 1956, is a kerbside one and householders are required to place their bins on the roadside verges to await collection. Refuse is collected once every three weeks.

Proposals for a more frequent collection were again considered by the Council but these were deferred until the Spring of 1960. The scheme envisaged the collection of refuse once a week from thirteen of the larger parishes and the remaining outlying parishes being collected once a fortnight.

Further consideration was given to the question of the provision of proper sanitary dustbins to all premises in the area and a resolution made pursuant to Section 75 (3) of the Public Health Act 1936 that the Council undertake themselves to provide and maintain dustbins at those premises which are without suitable receptacles and that an annual charge of 7s. 6d. be made in respect of each dustbin provided.

One hundred and fifteen notices were served under Section 75 of the Public Health Act 1936 on the owners and occupiers of 65 premises requiring them to provide a satisfactory dustbin.



The schedule of collection which has been in operation since May 1956, is as follows :—

## SCHEDULE

### Week 1

*Tuesday*— Padbury, Adstock.

*Wednesday*—Thornborough, Thornton, Beachampton.

*Thursday*— Maids Moreton, Foxcote, Leckhampstead.

*Friday*— Lillingstone Lovell, Lillingstone Dayrell, Addington, Middle Claydon.

### Week 2

*Tuesday*— Steeple Claydon.

*Wednesday*—Edgcott, Marsh Gibbon.

*Thursday*— Poundon, Twyford, Charndon.

*Friday*— Hillesden, Preston Bissett, Chetwode, Barton Hartshorne.

### Week 3

*Tuesday*— Tingewick.

*Wednesday*—Radclive-cum-Chackmore, Shalstone, Biddlesden, Water Stratford.

*Thursday*— Turweston, Westbury.

*Friday*— Akeley, Stowe.

The 18 cubic yard Dennis Paxit vehicle continued to give satisfactory service during the year. This vehicle, with its large carrying capacity, has proved most economical by (a) reducing the village to tip journeys ; (b) by the use of diesel fuel as opposed to petrol.

The old Karrier vehicle, which was purchased new by the Council in 1948, was replaced by a second-hand Karrier Gamecock, 10 cubic yard, side loading vehicle, with diesel engine. This vehicle is used for relief work on refuse collection, tip maintenance and for general sewerage and estate maintenance work.

All refuse was again disposed of by tipping in a disused clay pit at Calvert. The tip, which has been in use since September, 1957, is rented to the Council by the London Brick Company, Limited, and is well isolated from human habitation. The Fordson ' Major ' Diesel Tractor, with bulldozer blade, has proved a

valuable asset on tip maintenance and the tip has been kept in a presentable condition. Surplus excavated materials and soil have been imported at various times for covering the tip surface.

Regular inspections and treatment for rodents were carried out during the year. With the warm summer of 1959 it was necessary to carry out frequent spraying with insecticides to keep the fly nuisance to a minimum.

The total income from the sale of waste paper and scrap iron during the year amounted to £69 11s. 4d.

The work of cleansing septic tanks and cesspools continues to be carried out by contract at four monthly intervals and has been executed in a satisfactory manner.

## 6. SCHOOLS.

Work was commenced during the year on the following schemes :—

Chackmore School.    New classroom/dining room, kitchen  
and sanitary accommodation.

Tingewick School.    Do.

Modern sanitation exists in 11 of the total of 16 village schools in the District.

The remaining 5 schools still in possession of the bucket type closets are situate at :—

Akeley, Adstock, Hillesden, Marsh Gibbon and Padbury.

It is anticipated that conversion works will be carried out at Adstock and Hillesden Schools in January 1960.

The Akeley School cannot be dealt with until the village sewage disposal scheme is completed but it is hoped that W.Cs. will be installed by the end of 1960.

As far as Marsh Gibbon and Padbury are concerned, the delay is no doubt due to new schools being programmed for these villages.

## 7. SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no public swimming baths in the Rural District but rural residents in the summertime, as well as school children, used the open air one in the Borough of Buckingham.

## 8. ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No infestation was reported during the year.

## 9. RODENT CONTROL.

With the termination of the rat destruction service by the Ministry of Agriculture in March 1959, contracts were entered into with the owners of farms and agricultural land for the treatment of their premises four times per year.

The Council entered into two such contracts during the year.

Work during the year by the rodent operative has again been carried out satisfactorily.

In view of the discontinuation of direct grants for rodent work, it was decided to revise the charges for rat destruction on business premises.

### Work of Inspection and Control.

(a) Number of Complaints received	...	...	255
(b) Number of Properties inspected and visits carried out	...	...	2037
(c) Number of properties found infested with rats	...	...	273
(d) Number of Properties found infested with mice	...	...	44

Owing to the very fine summer, numerous requests were received from householders for the destruction of wasps' nests and approximately 50 nests were destroyed. In most cases 'Cymag' (potassium cyanide) was used but in positions where danger could arise the nests were either sprayed with carbon tetrachloride or treated with 5% D.D.T. powder.

## 10. GENERAL SURVEY OF WORK

### *Improvement of Existing Council Houses.*

The Council approved, in principle, the proposal to install hot water systems in 208 pre-War Council Houses which already were provided with bathrooms. An application was made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for payment of a standard grant in respect of the provision of such facilities and also for the installation of wash-hand basins in the following premises :—

4 houses, The Barracks, Hillesden.

17 houses, Southend, Leckhampstead.

This work will commence early in 1960 and it is hoped that other schemes will follow in due course.

### *House Purchase and Housing Act 1959.*

This Act, which came into force during the year, introduced a new system of standard grants to supplement the system of improvement grants and to make them more attractive to owners.

The distinctive features of the new system are that these grants are payable only in respect of the provision of specified standard amenities and on the expenditure actually incurred for this purpose and that provided that certain conditions are satisfied the owner of the property can claim the grant as a right. The Scheme is designed to deal, in the main, with relatively straight forward cases in which the improvements involve little or no structural alteration, leaving the existing discretionary grants to deal with the more elaborate proposals.

The five standard amenities eligible for standard grant are as follows :—

- (a) a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom ;
- (b) a wash hand basin ;
- (c) a hot water supply ;
- (d) a water closet in or contiguous to the dwelling ;
- (e) satisfactory facilities for storage of food.



### *Slaughterhouses.*

New regulations came into force on the 1st January, 1959 regarding hygiene and the prevention of cruelty to animals.

During the year all the slaughterhouses in the district have been subjected to a detailed survey and inspection and the licence holders advised of the works necessary to be executed in order to comply with the new regulations.

The Council are required, in pursuance of Section 3 of the Slaughterhouses Act 1958, to carry out a review of the existing and probable future requirements of their district for slaughtering facilities and to submit a report to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. This report has to be made before the 2nd November 1960 after due consultation with trade interests.

A meeting of organisations concerned has been arranged to take place early in January 1960.

New regulations were received early in the year regarding the staining and sterilisation of unfit meat, but before the regulation came into force, notice of revocation was received. It is regretted that by the end of December no further regulation concerning this matter has been made.

### *Building Byelaws.*

The department have been exceedingly busy during the year on building work inspection, which is no doubt due to the relaxation of capital expenditure restrictions. A total of 188 plans were deposited during the year, as compared with 96 the previous year and it is only with the greatest difficulty that the staff have been able to cope with this approximate 100% increase in building work.

## *Maintenance Work.*

There is still a high turnover rate with regard to persons engaged in general maintenance on refuse collection, sewage disposal, drainage and ditch cleaning. The nature of the work involved is no doubt the chief factor in bringing about these labour difficulties. Even when vacancies are advertised, difficulty is usually experienced in engaging the right type of person.

A brief summary of other inspections and visits made during 1959 is appended below :—

Total Number of visits to Premises	...	...	2832
Complaints received	...	...	30
Informal Notices served	...	...	37
Statutory Notices served :—			
Section 39, Public Health Act 1936		3	
Section 138 Public Health Act 1936		3	
Article 16 Food Hygiene Regulations 1955		1	
Section 75, Public Health Act 1936		115	
		—	122

## FACTORIES ACTS 1937 AND 1948.

The table below shews the position during 1959, as far as work places and factories are concerned and the inspections made for purposes as to health and sanitation.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors) :

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Number of Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupier prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	6	20	3	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in 1 in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	19	37	2	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	25	57	5	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found (if defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases") :



Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4) By H.M. Inspector (5)		
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the act (not including offences relating to Outwork.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	5	5	Nil	Nil	Nil

Part VIII of The Act—Outwork (Sections 110 and 111).—Nil.

## TENTS, VANS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

All the sites were inspected during the year and found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition :—

Number licensed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	14
Nuisances found to exist	...	...	...	...	...	4

## DRAINAGE

Good progress has been made in this field of operations and during the year alterations and the relaying of defective drainage systems were carried out at 94 existing premises of which 48 were in the parishes of Padbury and Adstock, being a result of the new sewerage scheme.

Thirteen septic tanks, serving fifteen dwellings, were constructed during the year.

Number of New drains examined	...	...	123
Number of visits for that purpose	...	...	216
Number of W.C.'s installed	...	...	116
Number of new soil and ventilating pipes installed	...	...	60

## PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS 1928 AND 1936.

Following meetings held by the Petroleum Officers throughout the County for the purpose of obtaining uniformity in various aspects of petroleum licensing, the Council approved draft memoranda concerning the following :—

- (a) conditions subject to which licences are issued for the keeping of Petroleum Spirit and Petroleum Mixtures ;
- (b) general construction requirements relating to the keeping of Petroleum Spirit and Mixtures in Can Stores ;
- (c) construction requirements applicable to Petroleum Pumps ;
- (d) general lay-out and construction requirements relating to the keeping of Petroleum Spirit in underground tanks ;
- (e) uniform licences and renewal forms.

These requirements follow closely those suggested by the Home Office in their Model Code.

During the licensing year 1959, three underground tanks were subjected to re-test and were found to be satisfactory.

#### Number of Petroleum Licences, December 1959 :—

500 gallons or less ... ..	28
Over 500 gallons but not more than 1,000 gallons	8
Over 1,000 gallons ... ..	4
<hr/>	
Total licences issued ... ..	40
<hr/>	
Number of inspections or tests carried out ...	38
Two new tanks were installed and tested during the year.	

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Enquiries in cases of infectious disease ... ..	4
Number of visits re disinfection ... ..	Nil

### HOUSING AND BUILDING BYELAWS.

Number of Plans deposited for new houses ...	18
Number of Plans deposited for other works ...	170
Visits in connection with Building Byelaws ...	595

### OTHER CLASSIFIED VISITS.

Housing visits under the Housing Acts ... ..	361
Housing visits under the Public Health Acts ...	36
Visits re water supply ... ..	66
Visits re drainage and sewerage ... ..	201
Visits re refuse collection ... ..	122
Visits re refuse disposal ... ..	36
Visits in connection with sewage disposal ...	368
Schools ... ..	15
General nuisances ... ..	5
Overcrowding ... ..	2
Accumulation of refuse ... ..	1
Foul ditches and ponds ... ..	7
Visits to Shops and Licensed Premises ... ..	263
Visits to Canteens ... ..	18
Unclassified ... ..	64
Stables and Piggeries ... ..	21
Knackers Yards ... ..	20

## SECTION D.

### Housing

The total number of Council Houses erected post war is now 408. The rate of progress during the year decreased considerably over that of the previous years. The figures for the last three years being 4, 14 and 26 respectively. By the end of the year 8 bungalows and 5 houses were under construction as compared with 4 houses the previous year.

#### Erection of Post War Council Houses up to December 1959

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Bungalows</i>	<i>Total Completed</i>	<i>Under Construction</i>
Adstock ... ..	16	—	16	—
Akeley ... ..	16	—	16	—
Beachampton ... ..	10	—	10	—
Biddlesden ... ..	4	—	4	—
Charndon ... ..	6	—	6	—
Chetwode ... ..	4	—	4	—
Edgcott ... ..	8	—	8	—
Hillesden ... ..	10	—	10	—
Lillingstone Lovell ... ..	4	—	4	—
Maids Moreton ... ..	15	—	15	—
Marsh Gibbon ... ..	28	2	30	—
Middle Claydon ... ..	4	—	4	—
Padbury ... ..	30	—	30	—
Poundon ... ..	3	—	3	—
Preston Bissett ... ..	12	—	12	—
Radclive-cum-Chackmore	4	—	4	—
Steeple Claydon... ..	52	39	91	6
Stowe ... ..	2	—	2	—
Thornborough ... ..	22	—	22	—
Thornton ... ..	4	—	4	—
Tingewick ... ..	45	13	58	—
Turweston ... ..	6	—	6	—
Twyford ... ..	28	—	28	—
Water Stratford ... ..	—	4	4	—
Westbury ... ..	17	—	17	—
Total ... ..	350	58	408	6

Total number of houses erected and occupied  
during the year 1959 ... .. 4

Total number of houses built and owned by the  
Authority ... .. 707

Pre-War—299. Post-War—408.

### Erection of Post War Houses by Private Enterprise up to December 1959

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Bunga- lows</i>	<i>Total Com- pleted</i>	<i>Under Constr- uction</i>	<i>By Other Author- ities</i>
Akeley ... ..	1	3	4	—	
Adstock ... ..	3	1	4	1	
Barton Hartshorne ... ..	—	1	1	—	
Beachampton ... ..	4	—	4	—	
Biddlesden ... ..	5	2	7	—	
Charndon ... ..	3	10	13	—	
Chetwode ... ..	—	1	1	—	
Edgcott ... ..	2	—	2	—	
Hillesden ... ..	2	—	2	1	
Leckhampstead ... ..	1	—	1	—	
Lillingstone Lovell ... ..	—	1	1	—	
Maids Moreton ... ..	5	2	7	1	
Marsh Gibbon ... ..	6	5	11	—	
Padbury ... ..	6	2	8	—	
Preston Bissett ... ..	—	—	—	1	
Radclive-cum-Chackmore	3	—	3	—	
Shalstone ... ..	—	—	—	1	
Steeple Claydon ... ..	4	4	8	1	
Stowe ... ..	20	1	21	—	
Thornborough ... ..	3	4	7	—	
Thornton ... ..	—	1	1	1	
Tingewick ... ..	1	3	4	1	
Turweston ... ..	2	1	3	—	
Twyford ... ..	3	2	5	—	
Water Stratford ... ..	1	1	2	—	
Westbury ... ..	6	3	9	1	
Total ... ..	81	48	129	10	

Total number of houses erected and occupied  
during the year 1959 ... .. 6

The Council gave consideration, in July, to the adoption of a 13th Building Programme but this matter was deferred for a period of six months owing to the delay in starting the 12th Programme.

Progress has been maintained regarding inspection of properties listed for action in the Council's Slum Clearance Programme.

A summary of the action taken with regard to Slum Clearance is shewn in the following table :—



# SLUM CLEARANCE — Five Year Programme

SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN FROM OCTOBER 1955 TO 31ST DECEMBER 1959

Parish	Number of Unfit Houses in Slum Clearance Programme	Action Taken						Represented under consideration	Owned by Local Authority resolution to demolish	Informal Action	Action to be Taken—Remaining
		Clearance Area Made (Number of Premises)	Demolition Order Made	Closing Order Made	Undertaking not to re-let for human habitation	Undertaking to make fit for human habitation	Demolished	Deleted from Programme			
Adstock ...	8		8				8				Nil
Barton Hartshorne	1		1				1				Nil
Charndon ...	6										6
Hillesden ...	4		4				1				Nil
Maids Moreton	11		3								8
Marsh Gibbon	6		6			3†	6				2*
Padbury ...	8			1							Nil
Preston Bissett	14			1	2	2	2	1	2	2	Nil
Steeple Claydon	1				1						Nil
Thornborough	9		3		1		2	3			2
Tingewick	8		2	3		1†	2				2
Turweston	3						1			1	2
Twyford ...	12	7	5				12				Nil
Water Stratford ...	5		2		2		2				Nil
TOTALS ...	96	7	34	5	10	8	37	4	2	3	22

NOTE.—\* Action to be deferred during present tenant's lifetime. † Rendered fit.



**Houses included in Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister Pre-War but not yet demolished.**

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of Houses</i>	<i>No. still occupied</i>	<i>No. of persons in occupation</i>
Akeley ...	6	1	2
Stowe ...	7	7	17

The licences issued under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 to occupy the above premises expired on the 30th August, 1957 and the owners and occupiers were subsequently notified to vacate the premises by 31st December, 1958.

The Council decided to assist in the re-housing as far as possible. Five houses, three at Beachampton and two at Tingewick, were demolished during the year.

**INSPECTION AND ACTION DURING THE YEAR.**

Number of Houses found to be in a state unfit for habitation	...	...	...	...	...	7
Number of Houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed to render the premises fit for habitation	...	...	...	...	...	1
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed that the premises owned would not be re-let for habitation	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Demolition order was made	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Closing Order was made	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which action was deferred	...	...	...	...	...	7
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Clearance Order was made	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

**OVERCROWDING**

One case of overcrowding was investigated during the year.

THE HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959.

*Discretionary Improvement Grants.*—Thirty-two applications for grants were made, all of which received approval and the maximum grant of fifty per cent was recommended in each case.

The total grant aid approved during the year amounted to £10,616 0s. 0d., an average of £331 15s. 0d. per house.

Applications made during 1959

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of Dwellings to be improved</i>	<i>Additional Units to be provided by conversion</i>
Akeley ... ..	1	—
Adstock ... ..	1	—
Barton Hartshorne ...	2	—
Edgcott ... ..	1	—
Hillesden ... ..	2	—
Lillingstone Dayrell ...	6	—
Marsh Gibbon ... ..	12	—
Padbury ... ..	3	—
Thornborough ... ..	1	—
Turweston ... ..	—	1
Westbury ... ..	2	—
	31	1

Up to the 31st December 1959, improvement works have been completed in respect of 87 properties and 6 additional units have been provided by way of conversion.

Number of properties in respect of which grants were approved by the Council during 1959 ...	32
Amount of grant aid approved by the Council during 1959 ... ..	£10,616 0. 0.
Total number of properties in respect of which grants were approved by the Council to 31st December, 1959 ... ..	136
Total amount of grant aid approved by the Council, to 31st December, 1959 ...	£40,810 18. 3.

# Standard Improvement Grants.

## Applications approved during 1959

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. of Premises involved</i>	<i>Standard amenities to be provided</i>				
		<i>W.C.</i>	<i>Wash Basin</i>	<i>Bath in Bath- room</i>	<i>Hot Water supply</i>	<i>Food Store</i>
Barton Hartshorne	I	I	I	—	I	—
Padbury ... ..	IO	9	8	6	7	I
Preston Bissett ...	I	I	I	I	I	—
Thornborough ...	I	—	—	—	—	I
Thornton ... ..	I	—	I	I	I	—
Turweston ... ..	I	I	I	I	I	I
Totals ... ..	I5	I2	I2	9	II	3

## SECTION E.

### Inspection and Supervision of Food

#### MILK.

It is pleasing to note that no report was received regarding the existence of tuberculosis or brucella abortus in dairy herds.

#### Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949

Number of Dairies registered	...	...	...	1
Number of Distributors on Register	...	...	...	10
Inspections	...	...	...	4

The following supplementary licences were issued during the year under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1949 authorising the use of the Special Designation :—

“ Tuberculin Tested ”	...	...	...	...	10
“ Pasteurised ”	...	...	...	...	7

#### ICE CREAM.

Total number of retailers on register	...	...	40
New applications received and Premises registered	...	...	8
Inspections	...	...	24

Samples of ice cream have been taken from premises serving ice cream to the public. These samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford, for bacteriological examination by the methylene blue reduction test and were graded as follows :—

Provisional Grade I	...	...	...	...	5
Do. II	...	...	...	...	1
Do. III	...	...	...	...	3
Do. IV	...	...	...	...	Nil

This test affords a simple means for the grading of the bacteriological cleanliness of ice cream.

## MEAT AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

During the year, a total of 1,600 animals was slaughtered for meat in the various slaughterhouses in the district and I am pleased to state that once again 100% inspection of the meat after slaughter was carried out. The percentage increase of animals killed over the year 1958 was 11.56. Of the five premises previously licensed as private slaughterhouses, only three had their licences renewed.

It is with every satisfaction that I have to report for the very first time that no cases of tuberculosis were found in adult cattle slaughtered during the year. The eradication of bovine tuberculosis by the attested herd scheme and latterly by attested areas will benefit both public health and also farming economy.

As in 1958, three cases of localized cysticercosis were found in cattle.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in  
whole or part :

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed ...	115	2	2	1218	263	—
Number inspected	115	2	2	1218	263	—
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</i> Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	65	2	—	157	24	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	56.51	100	—	12.06	9.13	—
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i> Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	5	—
Percentage of the inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	1.90	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	3	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and tot- ally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Parts or Organs condemned are classified as follows :

	<i>Beef</i>	<i>Pork</i>	<i>Mutton</i>	<i>Total</i>
Whole Carcase ... ..	—	—	—	—
Plucks ... ..	—	2	1	3
Livers ... ..	67	7	144	218
Heads and Tongues ...	4	7	—	11
Hearts ... ..	2	6	1	9
Lungs ... ..	4	13	15	32
Part carcase ... ..	—	2	—	2
Miscellaneous ... ..	4	1	2	7

**Approximate total weight 11 cwts. 3 qrs. 5 lb.**

Visits to slaughterhouses ... ..	199
Visits to Butchers' shops ... ..	203
Number of licensed slaughtermen ... ..	14

## FOOD PREMISES.

The premises coming within the purview of the Regulations are summarised as follows :—

School Canteens ... ..	16
Private School Kitchens ... ..	5
Factory Canteens ... ..	3
Hospital Kitchens ... ..	3
Licensed Clubs ... ..	4
Licensed Public Houses ... ..	38
Mobile Fish and Chip Vans ... ..	2
Shops—General Stores ... ..	41
Butchers ... ..	7
Bakers ... ..	1
Total ... ..	120

During the year one new general provisions shop opened, one bakehouse ceased to operate and one public house closed.

Statutory Notice was served on the occupier of a Licensed Public House under Article 16 of the Food Hygiene Regulations, requiring the provision of a wash-up sink with constant hot and cold water and provision of wash basin, etc.



Food Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act 1955 are classified as follows :—

Ice Cream (registered for the storage and sale) ...	40
Mobile Vans (for frying of fish and chips) ...	2
Manufacture of Sausages ... ..	7

## KNACKER'S YARDS.

There is one licensed knacker's yard in the district and regular inspections of the premises have been undertaken.

## OTHER FOODS.

Other foods condemned during the year include :—

Luncheon Meat ... ..	4 lb.
Pork Sausages ... ..	11 lb.

all of which were found to be unfit for human consumption by reason of decomposition.

## DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD.

All butcher's meat condemned is disposed of either by way of the knacker's merchant or by means of burial.

Tinned food is disposed of by burial.

## FOOD POISONING.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

## BAKEHOUSES.

Number on register ... ..	1
Number of visits ... ..	5
Contravention of Regulations ... ..	Nil

JOHN C. SHARPE.

*Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector.*

## SECTION F.

### Prevalence of, and Control Over, Infectious and Other Diseases

#### GENERAL.

There was an increase in the notification of measles during the year. This increase was fairly general over the Country as a whole. One case of Typhoid Fever was notified : this occurred in a young adult who contracted the disease on a visit to the Middle East.

#### NOTIFICATIONS.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Measles ... ..	64	46	110
Scarlet Fever ...	—	1	1
Whooping Cough	5	3	8
Pneumonia ... ..	5	7	12
Typhoid Fever ...	—	1	1
Total ... ..	74	58	132

#### CANCER.

There were 16 deaths from this disease during the year.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

Two primary cases were notified during the year, and there was one transfer in. There were no deaths.

DANIEL H. WALDRON,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*